



USDA – National  
Agricultural Statistics  
Service, Tennessee  
Field Office

# Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin



Cooperating with  
Tennessee Department  
of Agriculture

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Week Ending September 3, 2006

## SOYBEAN HARVEST BEGINS

The state’s farmers began harvest on a limited basis last week of some early maturing soybean varieties. One-fourth of the crop was dropping leaves, ahead of the five-year average but behind last year’s pace. Cool temperatures and scattered rainfall during the week kept row crops in mostly good condition, and helped revive some pastures. However, some counties received little to no moisture; consequently, pastures are deteriorating and crops are producing low yields. With over three-fourths of the State’s corn crop mature, farmers continued to make good progress with harvest. Cotton defoliation is now underway with bolls opening in over one-third of the acreage. Tobacco producers have nearly completed topping their crop, and at least half of the state’s acreage has been harvested. In general, insect pressure continues light in most areas of the State. Producers also took advantage of last week’s 5 days suitable for fieldwork to harvest hay and apply pesticides.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent very short, 28 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 16 percent very short, 30 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal across most of the State last week, except West Tennessee where they were below average. Precipitation was above normal last week across eastern portions of the State and below average elsewhere.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 3, 2006					CONDITION: On September 1, 2006					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn Mature	77	53	64	70	Cotton	1	4	19	59	17
Corn Harvested for Grain	21	9	5	15	Pastures	13	19	37	28	3
Corn Harvested for Silage	81	74	72	76	Soybeans	4	9	22	50	15
Cotton Bolls Opening	34	12	27	33	Tobacco	4	7	24	48	17
Cotton Defoliated	3	n/a	2	5						
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	25	18	34	17						
Soybeans Harvested	2	n/a	3	1						
Tobacco Topped	92	87	91	93						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	50	37	46	50						
Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested	56	49	45	59						
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	55	44	52	55						

n/a=not available

### County Agent Comments

*“Rains for the week were variable across the county ranging from less than 1/10” to slightly over 3”. Corn that has been harvested is yielding better than expected. We still have a bit of scattered light armyworm pressure in cotton.”*  
**Richard Buntin, Crockett County**

*“We received some much needed rainfall earlier this week to help finish the later cotton out. Soybean yields have varied drastically from 7 to 70 bushels per acre.”*  
**Tracey Sullivan, Haywood County**

*“Timely rains have really helped our late tobacco and soybean crops. Pastures and hayfields have greatly improved. In spite a shortage of labor, tobacco harvest is pretty much on schedule.”*  
**Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County**

*“Producers are feeding hay, hauling water, and liquidating animals due to drought. High nitrates indicated in corn silage. Second hay cutting is very small or non-existent. Armyworms in forages are a problem. Cotton is prematurely defoliating due to drought. These are very serious conditions.”*  
**David Qualls, Lincoln County**

*“Area received excellent rains during the week. The rains slowed corn silage and burley tobacco harvest, however, the moisture will be very helpful to hay and pasture crops.”*  
**Bob Sliger, Monroe County**

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION  
 For week ending: September 3, 2006 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F Since April 1	
	Week Ending September 3, 2006				Current Week 09/03/06	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	94	62	76	1	1.01	2	33.22	-2.51	2408	366
Tri-City_RGNL_A	90	61	75	4	2.67	5	28.50	-0.37	1588	182
Brownsville_TN	95	62	76	0	1.31	3	32.46	-3.32	2476	662
Chattanooga/Lov	93	66	80	4	0.59	3	29.92	-6.78	2404	468
Clarksville_Sew	91	62	76	2	1.45	4	30.82	-3.83	2218	391
Cookeville	94	60	75	3	0.19	3	35.84	-3.43	1801	651
Covington	90	61	74	-3	0.41	1	35.17	0.37	2258	175
Crossville_AP	87	61	74	4	0.73	3	32.61	-6.06	1634	329
Dayton	90	61	77	3	2.38	5	28.62	-10.02	1965	235
Dickson_AG	87	58	73	-2	1.26	3	39.27	2.39	1890	-16
Dover_1W	91	62	74	1	1.05	2	32.64	-3.24	2041	418
Dyersburg	93	61	75	-2	1.12	2	33.28	-0.91	2450	238
Erwin_1W	90	64	75	5	0.78	3	36.80	1.63	1562	-111
Huntingdon_Wate	93	61	75	0	0.82	3	36.54	0.70	2200	468
Jackson_Exp_Stn	94	62	76	0	0.16	2	32.80	-2.63	2356	364
Kingston_AG	90	62	77	5	3.84	4	37.98	-2.58	1981	473
Knoxville_AP	93	63	77	4	3.47	4	31.37	-1.87	2154	472
Lewisburg	97	61	77	4	0.90	3	32.73	-4.80	2072	374
Lexington_TN	94	61	75	-2	3.06	3	39.20	4.60	2141	907
Linden	95	61	76	3	1.25	4	34.31	-3.80	2102	397
Martin	92	61	74	-1	0.80	2	38.64	2.58	2195	281
Mc_Minnville_Tn	91	60	75	2	1.19	3	36.98	0.23	2090	-24
Memphis_AG	95	63	77	-2	0.25	2	31.80	-3.28	2597	133
Milan	94	60	75	1	0.30	2	34.79	-2.07	2238	370
Murfreesboro_5N	94	61	76	2	0.49	4	37.70	1.20	2111	9
Nashville_Metro	96	65	79	4	0.47	4	31.29	-1.56	2379	380
Newcomb	89	60	74	4	4.02	5	36.29	-1.79	1632	403
Oneida	89	60	74	4	2.88	6	38.02	-0.06	1648	-148
Portland_TN	93	62	74	1	0.99	3	30.79	-4.87	1981	323
Pulaski_Water_P	97	59	78	2	1.19	2	34.01	-3.49	2167	172
Savannah_6SW	95	58	76	0	1.21	3	36.09	-2.61	2365	605
Sparta_TN	92	56	76	4	0.51	3	36.74	-1.22	2020	587
Springfield	96	59	74	1	3.06	4	34.64	0.47	1880	212
Springhill	100	61	77	3	1.50	3	33.42	-4.35	2135	439
Union_City	93	61	74	0	1.43	2	38.58	3.40	2070	212
Waynesboro_TN	93	55	75	2	0.57	4	36.65	-3.01	1958	34

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.  
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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